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DIARY NOTES

Acting Executive Director-Comptroller

27 October 1971

Personnel Changes

At the Morning Meeting the Director commented that he wants to be informed of senior personnel changes at the time they occur. This reaction was in response to learning about an imminent change, even though he had approved it earlier. (We must set up a reminder system for this.)

Also at the Morning Meeting the Director reacted somewhat negatively to the news that one of our officers is leaving the Agency for a post in DOD. He commented that he does not want the Agency to be used as a farm to develop talent for other agencies. He realizes that this might happen to some degree but wants to limit it as much as possible.

Wage and Salary Restrictions

After submitting the Headquarters Notice on "Federal Employees Wage and Salary Restrictions" to the Deputies and receiving their comments, it was redrafted and distributed to them again. The revised version met their approval as well as the Director's. At this point we gave an advance copy of the Notice to MAG, which was having a business meeting. On 28 October I was visited by the Co-chairmen, who indicated that there was considerable criticism about the form and substance of the Notice. We stopped the press on the issuance of this Notice, discussed it, and reworked the Notice somewhat. The following points were covered:

a. While I fully appreciated their sincerity and the substance of their approach on this matter and indeed welcomed it, we could not allow a situation in which they would be part of the coordination process of our normal issuances. They fully concurred, and we understood each other that they were offering their reactions for whatever we wanted to do with them.

b. I said that I really could not change the substance of the Notice because of the problems of giving our employees a straight story and at the same time playing fair with OMB. In

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consequence, the substance had been rather carefully designed. Several of their suggestions could not be accepted for this reason.

c. Per their suggestion I made several changes in form in order to make it appear less bureaucratic in wording. We discussed the desirability of handling it as an Employee Bulletin with a special heading, and I said that I would be interested in developing such a channel of communication for greater use in the future. On this issue, however, I said that it seemed to be pretty much in concrete in its present aspect. (I later learned that Colonel White had specifically requested that this be an official Headquarters Notice rather than an informal Employee Bulletin, since it is a very official notification.) I issued the slightly revised Notice without further clearance with the Director, as the changes raised no policy problem.

Annual Report to PFIAB

After reviewing the NIPE draft of an annual report from the Director to PFIAB, I commented to the Director that I had a number of reservations about this report, including whether his signature should be placed on page 58. I pointed out that the report as a whole strikes me as a hodgepodge of a lot of things which do not need to be covered as well as some fairly sensitive items of criticism about various elements of the intelligence community. I said that I basically have two questions:

- a. Is the exercise sufficiently important to spend a lot of effort on it?
- b. Does he really want me, as Acting Executive Director, to get into this particular relationship between NIPE and himself?

The Director asked me to take up this matter with General Cushman upon his return and ask him to review it and discuss it further with D/NIPE. (I did so on 29 October.)

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